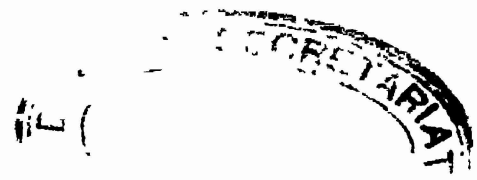
ANNUAL REPORT



ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1878-79.

BY

J. G. G. GRANT, Esq., M.D.,

Protector of Emigrants.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.

1879.

No. 1171F, dated Calcutta, the 29th September 1879.

From—J. G. GARROW GRANT, ESQ., M.D., Protector of Emigrants,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of Government, the annual report on emigration under the provisions of Act VII of 1871 from Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for the year ending the 31st March 1879.

2. *Protector of Emigrants.*—Dr. Vincent Richards, Medical Inspector of Emigrants and Embarkation Agent at Goalundo, officiated as Protector of Emigrants during my absence on leave for the whole period now under report.

3. *Medical Inspector of Emigrants.*—Excepting an interval from the 6th of July to the 28th of August 1878, filled by the late Dr. E. J. Gayer, who was succeeded for a few days immediately following his death by Dr. V. Richards, the appointment was held by Dr. J. G. French till the 28th of August, when he was relieved by Dr. J. F. P. McConnell, who was followed on the 18th of November last by Dr. R. Harvey, the present incumbent.

4. *Office and Establishment.*—The office continued at No. 9, Short Street, and there was no change in the nominal roll of the office establishment. The correspondence of the office has continued to increase, but chiefly in the number of letters received, as may be noticed in the following statement:—

	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.
Number of letters received	2,582	3,653	4,215
Ditto ditto despatched ...	1,571	2,217	2,473
Total ...	4,153	5,870	6,688

5. *The Indian Emigration Act VII of* 1871, *and Rules under its provisions.*—No change was made in the Act, but Rules 23, 23*a*, and 23*b*, requiring the shipment of only 25 women to every 100 men during the months of August, September, and October, and of a larger proportion during the succeeding months, in order fully to make up the season's average complement of 40 women to every hundred men, were enforced in regard to *all vessels* that left this port during the past season, excepting those for the French Colonies, because, in view of the large deficiency in the number of women that had to be made up by the Emigration Agent for the French Colonies, the vessels for those colonies were specially exempted from the operation of the rules.

6. *Emigration Agencies.*—Those engaged in emigration work during the year are shown in the following table:—

Colonies.	Agencies.	Emigration Agent.	Date of approval of appointment.	Situation of depôts.
Mauritius	British .	Mr C. Eales, on leave	21st July 1863 ...	Bhowanipore near Tolly's Nullah.
		,, H. A. Firth, officiating ...		
Demerara	Ditto ...	,, H A. Firth	19th February 1872	No 8, Garden Reach.
Natal	Ditto	,, J Caldwell	28th January 1878 ..	No. 76, ditto.
Trinidad	Ditto .	,, R W S Mitchell .	6th June 1874 ...	No. 9. ditto.
Jamaica	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto, officiating	26th March 1877 .	No. 9, ditto.
St Lucia	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ditto .	24th December 1877	No. 9, ditto
Figi	Ditto ..	Ditto ditto ditto ...	23rd September 1878 .	No. 9, ditto.
Surinam	Dutch ..	Mr E Van Cutsem ...	27th April 1876 ..	No. 20, ditto.
Guadeloupe	French .	,, F. Charriôl	10th October 1876 ..	No 5, Meetapooker Lane.
		,, R. Quillet, officiating ...	13th June 1878 ..	Garden Reach.

The number of agencies in operation, nine in all, was the same as that of the previous year, with this difference, however, that there was no emigration to Grenada; but emigration to Figi, under the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, was declared lawful on the 30th of August 1878, and Mr. Mitchell, appointep

Officiating Emigration Agent for Figi, conducted the collection and despatch of the first batch of Indian laborers sent from Calcutta to that colony.

7. *The Depôts.*—With the exception of the Mauritius depôt at Bhowanipore, they are all situated at Garden Reach, those for Demerara, Trinidad, and Surinam being on the riverside of the Garden Reach road. Their sites are well chosen, affording ample accommodation for large bodies of coolies and facilities for embarkation. It would appear that Dr. Richards was satisfied with the management of the depôts generally, and while referring to the uniform courtesy experienced by him from all the Agents, he states in a memorandum left by him, "I desire, before giving over charge of the office, to place on record my acknowledgments to Messrs. Caldwell, Quillet, and Van Cutsem for the willing co-operation afforded me throughout the year, and also to Mr. Mitchell who, since the untrustworthiness of some of his subordinates was demonstrated, has given me every possible assistance in the execution of my duty.

"As regards the arrangements of the depôts, I must give the highest praise to Mr. Firth for the very excellent arrangements existing in the Demerara depôt. They might well serve as a model for all the other depôts.

"I may mention that Mr. Quillet has been particularly prompt in carrying out any suggestions for the improvement of recruiting operations made by the department, and that Mr. Caldwell has already received the acknowledgments of Government for his assistance in bringing to light certain gross irregularities on the part of his subordinates."

The number of emigrants that were admitted into the several depôts, and the number and percentage of deaths that occurred in them during the last two years, are compared in the following table:—

Depôts.	1877-78.			1878-79.		
	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.	Number admitted into depôts.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of deaths.
Mauritius	3,044	41	1·34	1,316	8	0·60
Demerara	9,668	60	0·62	7,203	34	0·46
Natal	1,313	2	0·15	2,161	21	0·97
Trinidad	2,821	6	0·21	3,093	11	0·35
Jamaica	1,156	9	0·77	232	1	0·43
St. Lucia	724	5	0·69	263	1	0·38
Grenada	579	.....	0·00	.....	.....	.....
Figi	.....	.....	...	597	.....	.....
Surinam	504	1	0·19	1,046	5	0·48
Guadeloupe	2,733	44	1·60	2,515	16	0·63
Total ...	22,544	168	0·74	18,485	97	0·52

The total number of coolies accommodated in the depôts during the year under review was less by 4,059 than that of the previous year; and it may be observed that this reduction was due mainly to the smaller numbers received into the depôts for Mauritius, Demerara, Jamaica, and St. Lucia, as the numbers admitted into the depôts for Trinidad, Natal, and Surinam were in excess of those for the year 1877-78.

8. *Mortality*—It is satisfactory to notice that the mortality in depôt was on the whole less than that of the previous year. The death-rate was highest in the Natal depôt; but two-thirds of the deaths there were due to an outbreak of cholera that appears to have been promptly checked by adopting measures that improved the water-supply and feeding arrangements of the coolies. Cholera to a slighter degree appeared in most of the depôts; but in illustration of the fact so repeatedly noticed that coolies from the North-Western Provinces, Oudh, &c., who generally emigrate to the colonies, are not so prone to cholera as those from Chota Nagpore, &c., who emigrate to the tea districts of Assam and Cachar, it may be remarked that the disease did not spread; and with the exception of a comparatively slight outbreak of measles in the Demerara depôt, the sickness and mortality in the colonial depôts for the past official year, which was by no means a healthy one in the Lower Provinces, cannot be considered excessive.

It may be observed that the death-rate during 1878-79 was lowest in the depôts under Mr. Mitchell's management.

Particulars regarding the mortality amongst men, women, children, and infants admitted into depôt are furnished in the following statement :—

Colonies.	Male	Female.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total	Mortality. Male	Female	Children. Boys	Children. Girls.	Infants. Boys	Infants. Girls.	Total	Per-centage
Mauritius	661	384	109	82	120	1,316	4	1			3		8	0 60
Demerara	4,365	1,825	455	201	327	7,203	7	2	5	5	9	6	34	0 46
Trinidad . ..	1,892	740	191	143	127	3,093	2	1	1	3	3	1	11	0 35
Jamaica	118	81	14	9	10	232	..	...	...		1	...	1	0 43
St Lucia	138	91	15	11	8	263		1	...	...	...	...	1	0·38
Natal	1,175	533	187	128	138	2,161	7	3	4	3	3	1	21	0·97
Figi	320	180	51	25	21	597	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	0 00
Surinam	600	257	50	22	116	1,045	...	3	1		...	1	5	0·47
Guadeloupe	1,361	772	119	90	173	2,515	4	5	1	1	5	...	16	0 63
Total .	10,630	4,823	1,191	801	1,040	18,485	24	16	12	12	24	9	97	0 52

The percentage of deaths, as calculated on the total strength of each group admitted into depôt during the years 1877-78 and 1878-79, was—

	In 1877-78. Per cent.	In 1878-79. Per cent.
Amongst the men	0·25	0·22
Ditto women	0·48	0·33
Ditto children	1·68	0·20
Ditto infants	3·77	0·31

showing clearly that the results of the past year bear favourable comparison with those of the previous year. The causes of death are given in the following statement :—

Depôts.	Diarrhœa.	Dysentery.	Cholera	Fever.	Chicken-pox	Small-pox.	Chest affection.	Measles.	Other diseases	Total
Mauritius	.....	1	2	2	.....	.....	1	.....	2	8
Demerara	2	6	3	3	.....	...	4	13	3	34
Trinidad	4	2	1	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	1	11
Jamaica	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		1	1
St Lucia	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Natal	.....	1	14	2	.....	.....	3	.....	1	21
Figi	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Surinam	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	5
Guadeloupe	2	2	1	3	.....	1	5	.....	2	16
Total ...	8	13	23	10	.....	1	16	13	13	97

From a comparison of the above statements with the corresponding ones for the previous year, it is evident that sickness and consequent mortality in the colonial depôts were on the whole much less in 1878-79 than in 1877-78. The reduction in the death-rate is conspicuously satisfactory in the case of infants and young children, and although measles appears to have been altogether absent from the depôts in 1877-78, the greater prevalence of small-pox during that year more than neutralized that advantage.

Detention in Depôt.—The periods for which emigrants were detained in depôt during the year under report are given below—

Depôts	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Mauritius	266*	1	8	* This was the case of an emigrant detained under treatment in hospital.
Demerara	125†	1	14	† Ditto ditto ditto.
Trinidad	107‡	2	26	‡ The case of a child that had frequent re-current attacks of sore-eyes.
Jamaica	77	4	62	The detention of the Jamaica emigrants in depôt was due to the delay in the arrival of the return ship which had been chartered for the double voyage, and the difficulty experienced in procuring a ballast cargo
St. Lucia	37	1	19	
Natal	45	7	26	
Figi	38	2	16	
Surinam	57	11	34·77	
Guadeloupe	156	1	38	This was the case of a family with a sickly child detained till the departure of the third ship, at which time only they were able to embark.

Excluding the exceptional cases of prolonged detention in depôt on account of ill-health or other unavoidable causes, the chief instances of which are explained in the column of remarks, the average detention in depôt did not extend beyond a month.

9. *Of recruitment.*—The number of licenses granted, and the number and percentage of those cancelled during the past three years, is shown in the following table:—

Recruiting Agencies.	Licenses								
	Granted.			Cancelled.					
				1876-77.		1877-78.		1878-79.	
	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage	Number.	Percentage.
Mauritius	15	33	17	1	6 66	4	12 12	4	23·52
Demerara	129	133	98	5	3 87	5	4 42	3	4 54
Trinidad	56	92	77	5	8·92	6	6 45	16	16 88
Jamaica	...	35	10	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·00
Grenada	... ..	13	....	.....	.....	.. ..	.... .	.....	0 00
St Lucia	....	13	11	.....	.....	.....	....	1	9 09
Natal	60	5	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	11·11
Figi	...	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	5 40
Surinam	10	15	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	33 33
Guadeloupe	36	55	32	1	2·77	1	1·81	10	31 25
Total ...	306	375	286	12	3·92	16	4 26	42	14·68

Though the number of licenses granted in 1878-79 is smaller than that of either of the preceding two years, the percentage of licenses cancelled is more than three times that of either of the two previous years. Dr. Richards, in the annual report for last year, refers to a growing tendency on the part of recruiters under some of the agencies to employ unlicensed persons as illegal assistants in the recruitment of laborers, and with the advance of the emigration season, he adopted measures to try and check the evil by cancelling the licenses of all those whom he had found guilty of irregularities. A large majority of the licenses were cancelled for irregular recruitment through unlicensed recruiters, and for bringing persons out of one district and having them registered in another.

10. The terms offered to intending emigrants by the several colonies are represented in the following tabular statement which includes those offered to emigrants proceeding to Figi:—

Colony.	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages—minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling-house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana...	Adult males from 15 and upwards. Males from 10 to 15, and females above 10 years of age.	Five years	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the buildings in each day.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 24 cents ... = 0 8 0 16 „ ... = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	For adults of and above 15 years of age at a cost of two annas and eight pies daily:— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. Dál ... ... 4 oz. Cocoanut-oil or ghee ... 1 „ Massala ... ... 0¾ „ Sugar ... ... 2 „ Salt ... ... 0½ „ For minors of and above 10 and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities and half the cost. For infants under 10 years of age, one-third the above quantities free of cost.	From the first date of delivery to any employer until the first day of October then next following.	Free of charge...	Free of charge	After ten years' continuous residence in the colony, five of them being under indenture.
Trinidad	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, holidays excepted, and nine hours each day.	Daily— 1s. 0½d. ... = 0 8 4 Payable fortnightly.	For adults from 10 years and upwards:— Rice ... ... 1 lb. } Daily. Dál ... ... 4 oz. } Daily. Ghee or cocoanut-oil ... 1 „ } Daily. Sugar ... ... 2 „ } Daily. For non-adults from 5 to 10 years, half the above scale.	For two years at a cost of 2 annas and eight pies per ration, free of charge.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Jamaica	Adult males from 16 years and upwards, Males from 12 to 16 years, and females of any age.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Daily— 1s. ... ... = 0 8 0 9d. ... ... = 0 6 0	For adults— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. } Daily. Or corn meal ... ... 2 „ } Daily. Or cooked cassava ... ... 2 „ } Daily. Raw ditto ... ... 5 „ } Daily. Raw yams or cocoas ... 4 „ } Daily. Split peas ... ... 8 lb. } Monthly. Salt fish ... ... 6 „ } Monthly. Or mutton, beef or goat flesh... ... ... 8 „ } Monthly. Ghee ... ... 1 „ } Monthly. Or sweet or cocoanut-oil... 1 pt. } Monthly. Salt ... ... 1 lb. } Monthly. Dry pepper or pimento ... 2 oz. } Monthly. Fuel, sufficient ... ... } Monthly.	For the first three months or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture at maximum cost of 3s 6d weekly.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
St. Lucia... ...	Same as it is in Trinidad	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Same as it is in Trinidad...	Same as it is in Trinidad	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto.
Mauritius ...	Males— Adults above 18 years— „ 15 to 18 „ „ 12 to 15 „ Minors above 10 to 12 years. Females— Adults. Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 18 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto and domestic service.	Ditto	Monthly— 10s. ... ... = 5 0 0 8s. ... ... = 4 0 0 6s. ... ... = 3 0 0 5s. ... ... = 2 8 0 Daily— 6d. ... ... = 0 4 0 and rice, or monthly. 6s. ... ... = 3 0 0 11s. ... ... = 5 8 0* 9s. ... ... = 4 8 0 payable monthly.*	For adults above 12 years— Rice... ... ... 1½ lb. } Weekly. Pounded maize ... ... 2 „ } Weekly. Cooked manic ... ... 2½ „ } Weekly. Raw ditto ... .. 5 „ } Weekly. Dál ... ... 8 oz. } Monthly. Salt fish ... ... 8 „ } Monthly. Ghee or oil ... ... 4 „ } Monthly. Salt ... ... 4 „ } Monthly.	For whole period of indenture.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Not provided by the colony.

* These rates are subject to yearly increments of eight annas.

Colony	Classification of emigrants.	Period of indenture.	Work.		Wages—minimum rate claimable.	Ration.		Dwelling-house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage when claimable.
			Nature.	Duration.		Prescribed.	Period of supply.			
					Rs. A. P.					
Natal ...	Adult males of and above the age of 15 years.	Five years	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce.	Six days in each week, holidays excepted, and eight hours in each day.	Monthly— 1st year ... ... 5 0 0 2nd " ... ... 5 8 0 3rd " ... .. 6 0 0 4th " .. ... 6 8 0 5th " 7 0 0	For adults— 1½ ℔ rice, or for three days in the week, as substitute for rice, 2 ℔ of pounded maize. Monthly— Dál .. .. 2 ℔ Salt fish ... . 2 " Ghee or oil ... ... 1 " Salt ... ... 1 " For non-adults of the age of one year and upwards, half the above scale.	For whole period of indenture.	Free of charge...	Free of charge	After ten years residence, five of them being under indenture.
	Adult females of and above the age of 15 years.	.....	.....	.....	Half the above rates.					
Fiji ...	Adult males above the age of 15 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	The same as in Trinidad.	Daily 1 shilling	The same as for emigrants in Trinidad.	As in Trinidad ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	The same as Trinidad.
	Adult females above the age of 15 years.	.....	.....	.....	Daily 9 pence.					
	Minors under 15 years of age.	.....	.....	.....	In proportion to amount of work done.					
French Colonies	Adult males of 16 years and upwards. Adult females of 14 years and upwards. Males from 11 to 16 years, and females from 11 to 14 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto	Monthly ... ... 5 0 0 Ditto ... 4 0 0 Ditto ... ... 2 0 0 Payable weekly; also two suits of clothes each year.	Rice, manioc, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantities fixed by Government regulations. } Daily.	Ditto	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	After five years service under indenture.
Surinam ...	Adult males and females from 15 years and upwards. Minor males and females from 10 to 15 years.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Five days in the week, holidays excepted, and seven hours each day.	Daily— 24 cents ... ... 0 8 0 British Guiana currency. In proportion to amount of work performed and regulated by rates for adults, payable weekly.	For adults above 10 years— Rice ... ... 1½ ℔ Dál ... ... 4 oz. Ghee ... ... 1 " Curry-stuff ... ... 0½ " Sugar ... ... 2 " Salt, sufficient to season. For non-adults between 2 to 10 years half the scale for adults.	If desired by emigrants for the first six months at a maximum cost of 60 cents per week. At a maximum cost of 30 cents per week.	Ditto ...	Free of charge, except when illness is traced to personal misconduct.	Ditto ditto.

In regard to the Indian emigrants in Surinam, Mr. Van Cutsem has kindly furnished some particulars lately received by him from the Immigration Agent-General at Paramaribo.

It appears that at the close of the year 1878 there were 3,160 Indian emigrants in the colony, of whom 1,820 were men, 687 women, 380 boys, 273 girls—total 3,160.

Exclusive of those who died of accidents, the average rate of mortality amongst the coolies in 1878 was 2·66 per cent.

With reference to the statements forwarded from the colony, Mr. Van Cutsem observes—"A most satisfactory feature in these statistics is the great decrease which has taken place in the rate of mortality, the average in 1877 of the different plantations, in some of which there were no deaths, having been only 2·66 per cent. (excluding accidental deaths), and a comparison of the mortuary statistics of the Indian immigrants with those of other classes of the population during the same year giving the following results:—

	Per cent.
Indian immigrants	2·75 (including accidental deaths.)
West Indian ditto	3·97
Dutch ditto	...
Chinese ditto	4·08
Ditto ditto from Java ...	1·69
Natives and other unindentured laborers working on estates to which Indian immigrants have been allotted	4·07"

In regard to work and wages, the Immigration Agent-General at Paramaribo furnishes the following:—

Class.	Number of		Earned wages.	Daily average wages.	Maximum earned in a week.
	Immigrants.	Day's work.			
Males	1,792	309,672¾	fl. 216,990·48	fl. 0·70¹	fl. 13·60 on Zorgen. Hoop. Sugar estate.
Females	674	89,430¼	„ 56,820·93	„ 0 63⁵	„ 7·15 en Waterloo. Sugar estate.
Boys and girls	129	10,760½	„ 5,789·40	„ 0·53⁸	

"The remaining days of the year, which are not given as working days, ought to be counted for—

1. Sick days.
2. Days of absence with leave.
3. Days of absence to give evidence or to bring in complaints.
4. Days of wilful absence from work.
5. Days to undergo punishment.
6. The sum of holidays."

As the Dutch florin is equal to about 20 pence, it appears from the above statement that coolies in Surinam who work, can and do realize wages at the rate specified in their agreements.

The following extract from the Acting Immigration Agent's letter is a statement of the number of cases brought under medical treatment in hospital during the year 1878:—

"Cases of sickness and medical treatment—

		Immigrants.
On the 1st January 1878 were under treatment		263
Cases during the year		12,319
		12,582
Recovered	12,338	
Died in hospital	81	
		12,419
On the 31st of December 1878 remained under treatment ...		163

"Each *Indian* immigrant had in average 3·81 cases and 26·8 sick days.

"The patients were all treated in the hospitals; out-door patients are none."

In explanation of the comparatively large number of cases treated in hospital, it is stated that there are no *out-door* patients, the slightest cases being brought into hospital for care and supervision.

Endorsement No. 18 of the 16th January 1879, from the Government of Bengal to the Protector of Emigrants, forwarding for information copies of correspondence from India Office to Foreign Office, 31st August 1878.

Foreign Office to India Office, 26th October 1878, and enclosures.

In respect to the right of Indian immigrants labouring in French Colonies to a free return passage at the expiration of their stipulated term of service, it is satisfactory to have the assurance, conveyed in correspondence marginally noted, that instructions had been given to suspend the application of the decree depriving of the right of re-patriation time-expired coolies who have incurred a criminal or correctional conviction.

The number of emigrants required by the various colonies during the past two years, and the number actually despatched, are given in the following table:—

Colonies.	1877-78. Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	1877-78. Number despatched, represented as: Statute adults.	1877-78. Number despatched, represented as: Souls.	1878-79. Number of statute adults required by the colonies.	1878-79. Number despatched, represented as: Statute adults.	1878-79. Number despatched, represented as: Souls.	Remarks.
Demerara	7,000	6,988½	8,288	6,000	5,943½	6,520*	
Trinidad	2,000	1,935	2,151	2,400	2,395½	2,632	
Jamaica	764	704	896	150	152	165	
Grenada	500	403½	461	.....	.....	.....	
St. Lucia	500	485½	579	200	202½	221	
Mauritius	Males 830	2,034	2,336	Males 445	1,008½	1,220	Males only specified, but females of course accompanied.
Natal	" 992	1,025	1,092	" 1,000	1,517½	1,734	
Fiji	.....	.....	.....	400	450	498	
Surinam	300	300	324	600	623	709	
Guadeloupe	2,150	2,156	2,361	1,900	1,931½	2,100	
Total ...	15,036	16,092	18,488	13,095	14,224	15,865	

* This number includes 17 passengers.

From the above, it is evident that the supply fairly satisfied the demand, and the proportion of women, as is shown in paragraph 10 of this report, was not only up to, but in several instances exceeded, the minimum proportion of 40 women to every hundred men required by the regulations. It is necessary to explain, in respect to the apparent discrepancy between the number of statute adults required by Mauritius and Natal respectively, and the total number of statute adults actually despatched to those places, that the requisitions from those colonies specify merely the number of *male* statute adults, and leave the accompanying proportion of female statute adults to be regulated according to existing rules, though both colonies are, I understand, willing always to receive as large a proportion of women as the Agents concerned may find themselves in a position to send.

The following is a statement of the number of return emigrants who re-emigrated to the several colonies named in it, and of the colonies whence they had returned:—

Colonies from which they had returned.	Total number of return emigrants who re-emigrated.	Colonies to which they proceeded. 1878-79. Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	Natal.	Guadeloupe.	Surinam.	St. Lucia.	Fiji.
Demerara	217	2	191	10	1	5	4	1	.....	2
Natal	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Mauritius	120	48	35	8	1	3	21	.....	2	2
Trinidad	82	.....	6	60	.....	3	1	.....	.....	6
Jamaica	40	1	21	6	11	1	4	5	.....	.....
Grenada	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Vincent	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	472	51	255	91	13	12	31	6	2	11

Thus it appears that of 472 return emigrants, 217 were from Demerara, and of these 191 returned to Demerara; 120 were from Mauritius, and of these 48 returned to Mauritius; 82 were from Trinidad, and of these 66 returned to Trinidad; 49 were from Jamaica, and of these 11 returned to Jamaica. The marked preference which return emigrants show in re-emigrating to colonies, whence perhaps they have only lately returned, obviously affords some indication of the favourable estimation in which such colonies are held by those who have lived and laboured in them.

10. *Intending Emigrants.*—The following is a statement of the number of emigrants registered for the several colonies:—

Agencies.	Number shown to have been registered by registering officers' returns received.	Number shown by the Emigration Agents' returns to have been admitted into depôt.	Remarks.
Mauritius	1,267	1,316	The casualties that occurred among emigrants between the date of their registration and arrival in depôt cannot be ascertained accurately, in consequence of some of the Emigration Agents not having succeeded in furnishing the required information.
Demerara	7,680	7,263	
Trinidad	3,051	3,093	
Jamaica	246	232	
St Lucia	323	263	
Natal	2,760	2,161	
Fiji	649	597	
Surinam	1,264	1,045	
Guadeloupe	2,877	2,515	
Total ...	20,117	18,485	

From a comparison of the above figures, and from the absence of information regarding the casualties that occurred between registration of emigrants and the arrival in depôt, it will be seen that the Emigration Department during also the year under review was not in a position to exercise the requisite control over recruiting operations. In some of the agencies' depôts the number of emigrants that arrived exceeds that registered in the recruiting districts, while in others it falls far short. The excess of arrivals over registrations is of course due to the non-receipt from some recruiting districts of extracts from the registers of every registration effected, while that of registrations over arrivals is due to the exclusion of casualties that occurred subsequent to registration. The only remedy for this unsatisfactory position would be the adoption by the Governments of the North-Western and of other provinces in which recruitment is conducted of measures similar to those taken by Government in October 1878 in circular No. 43, addressed to all Commissioners of Divisions, requiring them to instruct all registering officers in each recruiting district to furnish the Protector of Emigrants with a copy of the registration of every batch registered, as also, as soon as possible after the close of each month, with a statement in prescribed form of all the registrations effected by them during the month. By this means, and with the aid of the form of depôt arrival report to be furnished by the Emigration Agents, which was introduced by Government in October 1878, this Department cannot but be placed in possession of that information, the absence of which has hitherto so crippled its efforts to arrive at the irregularities that occur in connection with the recruitment of laborers.

The following table affords information as to the number accommodated in the depôts, the casualties that occurred, the number despatched to the several colonies, and the number that remained in depôt at the close of the year :—

Colonies	Total number arrived at Calcutta.	Total number undisposed of last year.	Total number in depôt during the year.	Casualties. Rejections. As unfit to labour. Number.	Percentage.	Accompanying those rejected as unfit. Number.	Percentage.	Total. Number.	Percentage.	Releases. Unwilling to emigrate. Number.	Percentage.	Claimed by relatives. Number.	Percentage.	Total. Number.	Percentage.	Desertions. Number.	Percentage.	Deaths. Number.	Percentage.	Total casualties. Number.	Percentage.	Despatched to colonies. Number.	Percentage.	Transferred to other agencies by re-registration. Number.	Balance remaining at the end of the year. Percentage.
Mauritius	1,816	193	1,509	47	3·11	27	1·78	74	4·25	5	0·33	1	0·06	6	0·39	67	4·44	8	0 53	155	10 27	1,229	80·84		1·4
Demerara	7,263	..	7,263	366	5·03	180	2 34	546	7·51	26	0 35	...	...	26	0 31	154	2·12	34	0 46	760	10 47	*6,503	89 53	.	
Natal	2,161	...	2,161	183	8·46	114	5·27	297	13·74	12	0·55	1	0·04	13	0 60	79	3 65	21	0 97	410	18 99	1,734	80 24	3	14
Trinidad	3,093	...	3,093	134	4·33	70	2 26	204	6·59	8	0 22	5	0 16	13	0·42	117	3 78	11	0·35	345	11·15	2,632	85·09	64	52
Jamaica	232	...	232	15	6·46	1	0 43	16	6·89	2	0·86	2	0 86	4	1·72	3	1 29	1	0·43	24	10 34	165	71·12	31	12
St Lucia	263	...	263	12	4 56	...	.	12	4 56	...	..	..	..	...	.	...	. .	1	0·38	13	4·94	221	84·03	14	15
Fiji	597	...	597	48	8 04	6	1·00	54	9 04	1	0 16	...	..	1	0·16	1	0·16	.		56	9 37	498	83 41	29	14
Surinam	1,045	...	1,045	183	17 51	...		183	17·51	7	0·66	1	0 09	8	0·76	87	8 32	5	0 47	283	27 08	709	67 84	24	2·[illegible]
Guadeloupe	2,515	...	2,515	180	7 15	50	1·98	230	9·14	35	1 39	...	...	35	1 39	41	1·63	16	0 63	322	12 80	2,166	86 12	.	27
Total	18,485	193	18,678	1,168	6·25	448	2·39	1,616	8 65	96	0 51	10	0 05	106	0·56	549	2·93	97	0 51	2,368	12 67	*15,848	84·85	165	296

* Besides 17 passengers not included.

From the above statement, it appears that the total number admitted into depôt was 18,678, or 3,866 less than the total of the previous year; as 15,848 were ultimately despatched to the colonies, a balance of 2,829 are to be accounted for. Of these, 2,368 or 12·67 per cent. were deducted on account of casualties, 165 or 0·88 per cent. were transferred to other depôts, and 296 or 1·58 per cent. remained in depôt at the close of the year.

Of rejections.—The percentage of rejections from all causes was about one per cent. in excess of the total rejections for the previous year. The comparatively large number of rejections in the depôt for Natal is attributed by Mr. Caldwell to want of sufficient care in their selection in the recruiting districts; and this Mr. Caldwell ascribes to the careless and unscrupulous manner in which the sub-agents conducted their recruitment, and to the insufficiently strict medical examination of the intending emigrants in the recruiting districts. In regard to the precautions adopted by the Natal Agency to ensure fit laborers, Mr. Caldwell states that, "according to instructions, all mofussil recruits should be passed by the civil surgeons, to whom the agency gladly pays a fee for examination irrespective of the number of recruits passed. Thus Dr. Deane of Ghazipore rejected 123 souls of 1,091 presented to him (and out of the *men* numbering 536 rejected 107). To secure a proper inspection, therefore, of 429 adult male effective laborers who entered the Calcutta depôt, the agency gladly paid full fees on 1,091 souls, or fees on 2½ souls for each effective male.

"I must say that, although the agency was thus liberal, the medical examinations in the mofussil might with great advantage be much more searching and effective. It would save heavy subsequent expenses, be more satisfactory to the Indian and Colonial Governments, and be a very effective check upon the malpractices of recruiters."

With reference to the high percentage of rejections from among the coolies in the Surinam depôt, Mr. Van Cutsem writes—" The percentage of rejections in the Surinam depôt during the year ending 31st of last March was certainly considerably higher than I could have wished, and requires some explanation. It was mainly attributable to the weak and unsuitable class of people sent down by two of my recruiters, and also to the rejection in some cases of whole families, owing to one of the members being unfit for emigration. Out of one lot of 54 people, 19 had to be rejected, owing to their being far too weak and weedy to be sent to Surinam.

" The coolies were not medically examined in the districts last year. I am now, in all cases, having them medically examined at my expense by the civil surgeons of the districts, and trust that this arrangement will prevent the rejections from being nearly so numerous in future."

Of the rejections from the depôt for the French Colonies, Mr. Quillet explains that "the test standard was raised here, as I preferred to reject all indifferent subjects in Calcutta rather than let them go and swell the lists of sickness and mortality both on board-ship and in the colony. This action of mine has been attended with the best results, since the mortality on board all four ships I despatched last year was small compared with that of the previous season. On the other hand, it is only after I had started operations, and at Dr. Richards' suggestion, that I decided on getting our coolies medically examined up-country; and although no record has been kept of the actual number so examined, still I should say, roughly speaking, that about two-thirds of those received here passed through the civil surgeon's hands. This year I have issued strict instructions to all my people to get every coolie examined before registration, and I hope to be able to show better results in this respect at the end of the season. I would add, however, that some of the civil surgeons seem to do their duty in a very dilatory manner, for it is only the other day that I received a batch of about 20 souls with three men suffering from enlarged spleen, and all had been medically examined and passed up-country."

Of those from the depôt for Fiji, Mr. Mitchell states—"I think the chief cause was the very high standard I insisted on, owing to its being the first lot of emigrants embarked for a new colony and on account of a very large number offering.

"Probably two-fifths of the rejected might under ordinary circumstances, or when emigrants were scarce, have been shipped. With the exception of a few who were registered at the 24-Pergunnahs, I think all the emigrants were examined by European Surgeons up-country."

I am decidedly of opinion that the medical examination of intending emigrants *prior to registration* in the districts where they are recruited should, as in the case of laborers recruited under Act VII (B.C.) of 1873, be rendered compulsory. Such a procedure would reduce the chances of coolies being subjected to the subsequent hardship of rejection at Calcutta, and would not interfere, any more than it does in the case of Agents selecting laborers for the tea districts, with the freedom, right, and responsibility of the Colonial Agents in regard to their selection of fit laborers from among those that had passed the primary medical examination.

Releases of those unwilling.—The total percentage is smaller than that of the previous year; as is also the percentage of those who were claimed by their relatives, which are satisfactory points in the year's operations.

Of desertions.—The total percentage of desertions, it is also satisfactory to notice, has been less than that of the previous year, being 2·93 in 1878-79 as against 4-59 in 1877-78. The causes that lead to desertion and unwillingness to emigrate on the part of emigrants are, as may be supposed, very numerous; and though in too many instances they are traceable to deceptions practised by unscrupulous recruiters, there still remains a residue of cases that cannot correctly nor always be ascribed to the malpractices of recruiters. Some, for instance, express unwillingness, and it may fairly be assumed also desert, simply because they have changed their minds; some because it was not their intention to emigrate, but to come down to Calcutta at the expense of the agency concerned; others, impatient of unavoidable delay, express unwillingness and abscond after the despatch of a vessel in which they desired to embark; others, again, are persuaded by unprincipled return emigrants, who may happen to be of their company, to abscond in order to join some other depôt; others, again, desert under the influence and after the desertion or rejection of worthless women; and it not unfrequently happens that emigrants who have thus deserted, or been released from their engagements as unwilling, will in the course of a few days present themselves at the depôt gates and beg to be re-admitted.

There is every reason to conclude that Dr. Richards was most zealously vigilant in his efforts to detect irregular recruitment, and spared no pains in endeavouring to punish those whom he had reason to believe guilty of irregularities and illegal practices.

Proportion of women.—The rule prescribing the despatch of the minimum number of 40 women to every 100 men was fully complied with, and, as may

be seen from the following table; there was no deficiency at the close of the season :—

Colonies.	Male	Female	Proportion.	Deficiency at the close of the previous year.	Deficiency made up during the year.	Deficiency remaining at the close of the year.	Remarks
Demerara ...	3,957	1,668	42 15	... ..		..	
Trinidad	1,611	649	40 28	.. ...	...		
Jamaica	98	47	48 95	.....	.		
St Lucia	116	75	64 65	.....		.	
Mauritius	603	326	56 06	3	.	..	
Natal	955	442	46 28	42		..	
Fiji	273	146	53 47	... ..	..	..	
Surinam	432	173	40 04	.....		.....	
Guadeloupe	1,170	676	57 77	181		.. ...	
Total ..	9,213	4,202	45 60	.... .	..	.. ...	

Of those who were transferred to other Depôts.—It is of course impossible for the agencies to work so closely to their requisitions as entirely to avoid a surplus if only of a few coolies and their families at the close of the season; and it was invariably my practice fully to explain the position to such emigrants as could not be embarked for the colony for which they had been engaged, to inform them distinctly that the agency concerned was bound and was prepared to further their reasonable wishes, and to insist on it that it was freely optional with them as to what was to be done. Accordingly those who elected to return home were sent back to their districts at the expense of the colony, and those who preferred to engage for some other colony were of course helped to do so, it being in all cases ascertained that they fully understand the conditions on which they were about to re-engage and have themselves re-registered and "transferred." From what I gather, it appears that at the close of the season under review, Dr. Richards in like manner was careful to ascertain that all those who had not been embarked for the colonies to which they were originally bound were disposed of in accordance with their own wishes on this poiut.

Of those that had not been embarked by the close of the season, and therefore remained in the several depôts as a balance to be accounted for, I have gathered the following particulars :—

(*a*)—The 134 that remained in the Mauritius depôt simply continued in depôt for subsequent shipment, as emigration for Mauritius continues all the year round.

(*b*)—All those who had not been shipped for Demerara were found on examination to consist merely of those who would have been rejected under any circumstances as "unfit," consequently the balance that remained in depôt at the close of the season were treated in every respect as "*rejections*," and are therefore included under that heading.

(*c*)—Of those, 14 in all, not embarked for Natal, Mr. Caldwell gives the following particulars :—

"Released from their engagements for want of room in last ship	7
Orphans	7

at charge of Natal Government. One boy (about nine) absconded. Two boys with Agent earn wages as servants. Three girls are placed at expense of the agency in the Calcutta Foundling Asylum. One infant died."

(*d*)—The balance of coolies in the rest of the depôts elected to be sent home, and were accordingly returned at the expense of the colonies concerned.

The mortality in depôt has already been considered in paragraph 7 of this report.

The following is a statement of the provinces and their districts, in the order of their importance as sources of supply, from which the emigrants actually despatched were recruited :—

Provinces.	Districts.	Number of souls despatched for the Colonies.									Total.
		Mauritius.	Demerara.	Trinidad.	Jamaica.	St. Lucia.	Natal.	Fiji.	Surinam.	Guadeloupe.	
North-Western...	Allahabad, Azimghur, Mirzapore, Benares, Ghazipore, Goruckpore, Meerut, Cawnpore, Barielly, Agra, Jhansi, and Jaunpore.	643	3,617	1,273	46	90	1,052	216	399	1,267	8,603
Oudh	Lucknow, Sitapore, Sultanpore, Fyzabad, and Roy Barielly.	29	2,065	1,000	110	123	358	213	296	72	4,266
Behar	Patna, Gya, Arrah, Sarun, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah.	498	639	293	6	3	262	36	6	781	2,524
Bengal	Calcutta, 24-Pergunnahs, Howrah, Nuddea, Burdwan, Moorshedabad, Jessore, Pubna, Rungpore, Cooch Behar, Chota Nagpore, Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, Sonthal Pergunnahs, Dacca, Mymensing, Backergunge, and Furreedpore.	37	74	32	.....	.....	41	16	.....	3	203
Central India ...	Indore, Nagpore, Jubbulpore, Raipore, Rewah, and Gwalior.	3	63	11	2	1	12	11	8	9	120
Miscellaneous—Madras and Bombay, &c.	Unknown	7	25	13	.....	.....	4	2	.....	7	58
Punjab and dependencies.	Delhi, Umballa, Jullunder, Umritsur, Lahore, Peshawar, Ferozepore, and Guzerat.	2	25	7	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3	40
Nepal—Native States.	Unknown	1	8	1	1	4	.....	.....	.....	23	38
Orissa	Cuttack, Balasore, and Pooree.	.....	42	2	.....	.....	5	1	.....	1	13
	Total ...	1,220	6,520	2,632	165	221	1,734	498	709	2,166	15,865

On comparing the above results with those of the previous year, it appears that, excepting recruitment in Oudh, which exceeded by about 100 emigrants the recruitment of the previous year, there was, as might be expected, a reduction in the numbers collected in the several districts in 1878-79 as compared with the numbers for 1877-78. Estimated roughly, rather more than half the number that emigrated were recruited in the North-Western Provinces, about one-fourth in Oudh, and the remainder in Behar, Bengal, and other places.

11. *Emigrant vessels.*—As shown in the following table, one steamer and 32 sailing vessels conveyed the 15,864 emigrants from this port to the several colonies, each vessel carrying an average of 444 emigrants. The average number of emigrants carried by each vessel in 1877-88 was 486.

Colonies.	1877-78. Number of vessels.			1878-79. Number of vessels.			Number of emigrants.	Average number of emigrants to each ship.
	Sailing ships.	Steam-ship.	Total.	Sailing ships.	Steam-ship.	Total.		
Demerara	15	.....	15	13	.....	13	6,520	501
Trinidad	4	.....	4	5	.....	5	2,632	526
Jamaica	2	.....	2	1	.....	1	165	165
Mauritius	6	.....	6	3	.....	3	1,220	406
Natal	3	.....	3	4	.....	4	1,734	433
Grenada	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.. ..	...
St. Lucia	1	.....	1	1	.....	1	221	221
Surinam	.....	1	1	.....	1	1	709	709
Guadeloupe	5	.....	5	4	.....	4	2,166	541
Fiji	.....	.. ..	.....	1	.....	1	498	498
Total ...	37	1	38	32	1	33	15,865	444

Excepting the case of the *Lee*, of which vessel no report has been received, complete information in regard to the several results of the voyage of each vessel is given in the following statement:—

Number.	Names of vessels.	Colonies to which emigrants were conveyed.	Names of Surgeons.	Date of departure.	Date of arrival at destination.	Length of voyage in days.	Number of souls embarked.	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality.	REMARKS.
1	Ellora ...	Mauritius ...	J. Welsh ...	26th April 1878	4th June 1878	30	435	2	0·45	
2	Glenroy ...	Natal ...	A. H. Barrow ...	18th May "	17th July "	61	486	4	0 82	Cholera.
3	Merchantman ...	Do. ...	W. Reid ...	25th " "	19th " "	56	397	1	0·25	
4	Poonah ...	Do. ...	J. Shaw ...	4th June "	29th " "	56	500	1	1·20	
5	St. Zanzibar ...	Surinam ...	H. W. Jones ...	10th " "	14th August "	66	709	10	1·71	
6	Ophir	Natal ...	J. Weshurt ...	19th " "	21st " "	64	351	14	3·98	Ditto.
7	Canada	Mauritius ...	J. Sunderberg ...	4th July "	11th " "	36	490	1	0·20	
8	Lassa	Demerara ...	R. Rivers ...	4th August "	3rd November "	91	485	13	2·68	
9	Sheela	Trinidad ...	C. Chapman ...	4th " "	3rd " "	91	546	18	3·29	
10	Plassey	Demerara ...	W. Arthur ...	11th " "	11th " "	92	627	28	4·46	Measles.
11	Ellora	Ditto ...	E. Hardwick ...	18th " "	11th " "	85	493	12	2·43	
12	Brenda	Trinidad ...	T. D. Atkins ...	22nd " "	19th " "	87	547	4	0·75	
13	Jorwar	Guadeloupe	P. Chanvin ...	3rd September "	24th December "	111	544	10	1·83	
14	North	Demerara ...	J. B. Menzies ...	4th " "	9th " "	97	470	17	3·63	
15	Jura	Trinidad ...	C. Penn ...	15th " "	19th " "	96	527	6	1·13	
16	Newcastle ...	Demerara ..	C. P. Morton ...	21st " "	29th " "	95	512	15	2·92	
17	Ailsa	Trinidad ...	F. E West ...	24th " "	21st " "	88	487	1	0·20	
18	Foyle	Guadeloupe	B Graffraz ...	22nd October "	15th January 1879	86	557	8	1·43	
19	Berar	Demerara ...	P. Hughes ...	27th " "	24th " "	90	382	2	0 52	
20	Artist	Trinidad ...	J. M. Laing ...	1st November "	27th " "	86	525	9	1·71	
21	Suffolk	Demerara ...	J. M. Barry ...	10th " "	23rd " "	75	493	14	2 83	
22	Malabar	Ditto ...	C. L. Cunningham	17th " "	7th February "	83	540	17	3·09	
23	Poonah	Ditto ..	A. H. Savrey ...	8th December "	9th March "	91	507	17	3·35	
24	Jumna	Guadeloupe	E. H. Vairquity ...	17th " "	19th " "	93	452	6	1 32	
25	Howrah	Demerara ...	J. S. Ireland ...	29th " "	19th " "	81	524	4	0·76	
26	Canada	Mauritius ...	J. H. Bernon ...	12th January 1879	10th February "	29	295	2	0·67	
27	Chetah	Jamaica ...	A. E. Prockter ...	17th " "	14th April "	88	165	.	...	
28	Ditto	St. Lucia ...	Ditto ...	17th " "	6th " "	80	221	1	0·45	
29	Rohilla	Demerara ...	W. Holman ...	30th " "	25th " "	85	435	2	0·25	
30	Lightning	Ditto ...	E. Noott ...	6th February "	27th May "	111	544	3	0·55	
31	Silhet	Ditto ...	G. Stewart ...	18th " "	5th June "	108	499	6	1·20	
32	Lee	Guadeloupe	A. Granzer ...	25th " "	.....	...	613	...	...	Information not received.
33	Leonidas	Fiji ...	J. Welsh ...	4th March "	13th May "	71	498	16	3·21	Cholera.

The average length of voyage to places—

West of the Cape = 89¾ days and average percentage of deaths.. = 1·79
East ditto = 51½ ditto ditto .. = 1·18

The greatest mortality (which, however, was not so high as that of the *Artist* and *Jorwar* last year) occurred on board the *Plassey*, and was due to an outbreak of measles. The *Lee's* arrival at St. Helena has been reported, but no further information has yet been received regarding her.

On the whole, the death-rate was somewhat less than that of the previous year. Cholera occurred on three vessels. The *Glenroy* had one fatal case only, but the *Leonidas* had 19 cases—10 fatal. The first attacked, three days after leaving port, was one of the European crew who died. No communication with any previous case was traced. Of 18 emigrants attacked nine died. The surgeon could not trace the outbreak to either water or food. The *Ophir* had four fatal cases.

12. *Return emigrants.*—The following is a statement of the number of emigrants who returned from the colonies named in it, the amount of their acknowledged savings, and the mortality during the return voyage.

COLONIES.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.		SAVINGS. Aggregate amount.	SAVINGS. Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	4	1,402	13	0·92	2,37,567 0 0	162 5 0
Demerara	3	1,599	38	2 37	3,88,040 15 10	243 3 11
Jamaica	1	227	11	4·62	25,217 0 0	111 1 4
Natal	1	36	4	10·00	123 2 0	3 6 8
Total ..	9	3,264	66	1 99	6,51,857 1 10	199 11 4

The total number of emigrants who returned during the year 1878-79 exceeded by 720 the number that returned during 1877-78. The aggregate amount of savings was Rs. 6,51,857-1-10, the average amount for each individual being Rs. 199-11-4.

More detailed information regarding each of the ships engaged for their conveyance is submitted below:—

Number.	Names of vessels	Colonies from which emigrants returned	Names of Surgeons	Date of departure from Colonies.	Date of arrival at Calcutta.	Length of voyage.	Number of souls embarked	Mortality during the voyage.	Percentage of mortality
1	Aldergrove .	Demerara ..	J Hinder	3rd December 1877	25th April 1878	144	537	20	3 72
2	Canada	Mauritius ...	A Noel ...	9th April 1878	22nd May "	44	433	6	1 38
3	Chetah ...	Jamaica ...	A E Prockter ...	5th June "	3rd November "	152	227	11	4'84
4	Allumgheer ...	Mauritius .	L M Gregoire ...	21st " "	23rd July "	33	219		
5	Lightning ..	Demerara ...	F C. Shaw .	27th August "	23rd December "	119	568	6	1 05
6	Silhet ...	Ditto ,	J S Hughes ...	11th September "	24th " "	105	494	12	2 42
7	Umooti ...	Natal ...	S B Kemp ...	13th " "	18th November "	67	36	4	11 11
8	Canada .	Mauritius	A Noel . .	19th " "	10th " "	53	488	6	1 22
9	Allumgheer ...	Ditto ..	L M Gregoire .	1st December "	19th January 1879	50	262	1	0 38

As special reports in regard to each of the above vessels have already been submitted to Government, it does not appear necessary here to repeat what has already been said. In no instance does the mortality on the voyage appear to have been excessive, especially when it is considered that in every vessel bringing back return emigrants a varying proportion of the passengers are chronic invalids or persons debilitated by advancing age and infirmity.

13. The following annual returns are herewith submitted for the information of Government:—

1. Annual return of emigrants despatched to Demerara.
2. Ditto ditto ditto Trinidad.
3. Ditto ditto ditto Jamaica.
4. Ditto ditto ditto St. Lucia.
5. Ditto ditto ditto Natal.
6. Ditto ditto ditto Fiji.
7. Ditto ditto ditto Mauritius.
8. Ditto ditto ditto Surinam.
9. Ditto ditto ditto Guadeloupe.
10. Table exhibiting the number of emigrants to and from the West India Colonies.
11. Table exhibiting the number of emigrants to and from Natal, Mauritius, and Fiji.

In conclusion, it affords me great pleasure to add what is justly due to Mr. E. R. Forbes, the Personal Assistant. Dr. Richards says—"I fully endorse the opinions of my predecessors in regard to Mr. Forbes' ability, zeal, integrity, and tact. He is a man in every way well suited for an appointment which is anything but a sinecure."

Table exhibiting the Number and Description of East Indian Emigrants who have left Calcutta for Mauritius, Natal, and Fiji during the year 1878-79, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

Names of Colonies.	Embarked.								Returned								
	Men.	Women.	Children Boys.	Children Girls	Infants Boys	Infants Girls.	Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults.	Men	Women.	Children Boys	Children Girls	Infants Boys.	Infants Girls	Total number of souls	Total number of statute adults.	Amount of savings brought by return emigrants
																	Rs A. P
Mauritius .	609	326	99	60	64	68	1,220	1,008½	1,009	211	82	80	10	10	1,402	1,307½	2,37,567 0 0
Natal	955	442	141	100	55	41	1,734	1,517½	29	5	1	...	..	1	36	34½	123 2 0
Fiji .	273	146	42	20	5	12	498	450			.		.			...	. .
Total ...	1,837	914	282	180	124	121	3,452	2,976	1,038	216	83	80	10	11	1,438	1,342½	2,37,690 2 0

Table exhibiting the Number and Description of East Indian Emigrants who have left Calcutta for the West Indies during the year 1878-79, *and the numbers returned therefrom during the same period, with the amount of their savings, remittances, &c.*

Names of Colonies	Embarked.								Returned								
	Men	Women.	Children		Infants.		Total number of souls.	Total number of statute adults	Men.	Women	Children		Infants		Total number of souls	Total number of statute adults.	Amount of savings brought by return emigrants.
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.					Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.			
																	Rs. A. P.
Demerara ...	3,957	1,668	389	248	133	125	*6,520	5,943½	924	381	122	129	18	25	1,599	1,430½	3,88,949 15 10
Trinidad ...	1,611	649	155	116	59	42	2,632	2,395½	..	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	.....
Jamaica ...	96	47	11	7	2	2	165	152	158	41	9	14	2	3	227	210½	25,217 0 0
St. Lucia ...	116	75	13	10	4	3	221	202½	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	..	.....
Surinam ...	432	173	28	8	37	31	709	623	..	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	.....
Gaudeloupe	1,170	676	96	75	95	54	2,166	1,931½	...	..	...	..	.	..	...	..	.....
Total ...	7,382	3,288	692	464	330	257	12,413	11,248	1,082	422	131	143	20	28	1,826	1,641	4,14,166 15 10

* This number includes 17 passengers.

Annual Return of Emigrants despatched to Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Natal, Fiji, Mauritius, Surinam, and the French West India Colonies during the year 1878-79.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			St. Lucia.			Natal.			Fiji.			Mauritius.			Surinam.			Guadeloupe.			Total.		Grand total.	Remarks.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.		
Under 2 years .. .	133	125	258	59	42	101	2	2	4	4	3	7	55	41	96	5	13	17	64	68	132	37	31	68	95	54	149	454	378	832	
From 2 to 10 „ . ..	389	248	637	155	116	271	11	7	18	13	10	23	141	100	241	42	20	63	99	60	159	28	8	36	96	75	171	974	644	1,618	
„ 10 „ 20 „	752	300	1,052	327	191	518	38	12	50	44	26	70	207	100	307	76	31	107	81	62	143	69	54	123	231	152	383	1,825	928	2,753	
„ 20 „ 30 „	2,995	1,312	4,307	1,207	435	1,642	57	33	90	70	49	119	650	317	967	187	110	297	256	164	420	346	111	457	884	503	1,387	6,652	3,034	9,686	
„ 30 „ 40 „	200	47	247	73	22	95	1	2	3	2	...	2	93	24	117	10	5	15	253	84	337	17	8	25	55	20	75	704	212	916	
„ 40 „ 50 „	8	8	16	4	1	5	..	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	6	...	...	...	13	14	27	...	...	...	...	1	1	30	25	55	
Above 50 „	2	1	3	.	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	2	2	..	...	...	...	...	.	2	3	5	
Total ...	4,479	2,041	*6,520	1,825	807	2,632	109	56	165	133	88	221	1,151	583	1,734	320	178	498	766	454	1,220	487	212	709	1,361	805	2,166	10,641	5,224	15,865	

* This number includes 17 passengers.

No. 2.—As to places whence Emigrants came to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			St. Lucia.			Natal.			Fiji.			Mauritius.			Surinam.			Guadeloupe.			Total.		Grand total.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Orissa	4	...	4	2	..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5	1	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	12	1	13
Western Bengal	17	8	25	17	8	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	16	25	11	4	15	13	5	18	...	...	...	1	...	1	68	41	109
Central ditto	26	15	41	4	2	6	..	...	...	...	...	...	9	3	12	1	...	1	10	8	18	...	...	..	1	...	1	51	28	79
Eastern ditto	7	1	8	1	...	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	3	1	4	.	..	.	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	13	2	15
Behar	441	198	639	214	79	293	3	3	6	3	...	3	172	90	262	24	12	36	319	179	498	4	2	6	499	282	781	1,679	845	2,524
North-Western Provinces ...	2,476	1,141	3,617	890	383	1,273	31	15	46	62	28	90	691	361	1,052	140	76	216	394	249	643	285	114	399	756	511	1,267	5,725	2,878	8,603
Oudh	1,413	652	2,065	672	328	1,000	74	36	110	64	59	123	251	107	358	129	84	213	21	8	29	203	93	296	64	8	72	2,891	1,375	4,266
Central India	43	20	63	8	3	11	...	2	2	1	...	1	8	4	12	9	2	11	2	1	3	5	3	8	9	...	9	85	35	120
Punjab	23	2	25	6	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	3	.	3	2	..	2	...	...	.	3	...	3	37	3	40
Nepaul	8	...	8	1	...	1	1	...	1	3	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	22	1	23	36	2	38
Mix Madras, Bombay, &c. ...	21	4	25	10	3	13	...	...	...	...	..	..	4	...	4	2	...	2	3	4	7	..	...	..	4	3	7	44	14	58
Total ...	4,479	2,041	6,520	1,825	807	2,632	109	56	165	133	88	221	1,151	583	1,734	320	178	498	766	454	1,220	497	212	709	1,361	805	2,166	10,641	5,224	15,865

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

	Demerara.			Trinidad.			Jamaica.			St. Lucia.			Natal.			Fiji.			Mauritius.			Surinam.			Guadeloupe.			Total.		Grand total.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Brahmins, high caste	479	191	670	181	60	241	16	5	21	18	12	30	85	33	120	39	12	51	68	35	103	29	12	41	119	54	173	1,084	416	1,450
Hindoos: Agriculturists ..	1,582	664	2,246	653	243	896	35	26	61	48	33	81	386	168	554	100	50	150	256	133	389	167	73	240	450	229	679	3,677	1,619	5,296
Hindoos: Artisans ..	250	111	361	37	14	51	1	2	3	4	1	5	17	4	21	7	9	16	26	5	31	18	10	28	49	30	79	409	186	595
Hindoos: Low castes ...	1,458	687	2,145	713	411	1,124	39	16	55	47	23	70	577	325	902	110	62	172	336	226	562	256	89	345	593	377	970	4,129	2,216	6,345
Mussulmans	710	388	1,098	241	79	320	18	7	25	16	19	35	86	51	137	64	45	109	80	55	135	27	28	55	150	115	265	1,392	787	2,179
Christians	...	...	..	.	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	.	..	.	...	..	..	...	..	.....	.....	.. ..
Total .	4,479	2,041	6,520	1,825	807	2,632	109	56	165	133	88	221	1,151	583	1,734	320	178	498	766	454	1,220	497	212	709	1,361	805	2,166	10,641	5,224	15,865

Memorandum.

	Male.	Female.	Total
1 Hindoos	9,249	4,437	13,686
2. Mussulmans	1,392	787	2,179
3. Christians		.	..
Total ...	10,641	5,224	15,865

J. G. G. GRANT,

Protector of Emigrants.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

COLONIAL EMIGRATION.

CALCUTTA, THE 25th NOVEMBER 1879.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The report of the Protector of Emigrants for the year 1878-79.

IT is satisfactory to observe that the marked increase in colonial emigration which occurred in 1877-78 was in great measure maintained in the past year. The number of emigrants despatched to the colonies fell off, but the decrease may be attributed rather to the fact that the demand of the colonies was not so large as in the previous year, than to any difficulty experienced in securing emigrants in the recruiting districts. In both years the operations of recruiters were facilitated by the prevalence of high prices in the districts in which they were employed, and the number of emigrants who actually left Calcutta for the colonies was in excess of that for which requisitions were received by the Emigration Agents. The demand of the colonies and the number of emigrants despatched during the last three years stand thus:—

	Statute adults required.	Statute adults despatched.	Souls.
1876-77	12,965	7,138	7,734
1877-78	15,036	16,032	18,488
1878-79	13,095	14,224	15,865

Emigration to Fiji was permitted for the first time last year, and 498 emigrants were sent to that colony during the season. Continued attention was given by the Protector to the removal of abuses and the introduction of measures calculated to prevent their recurrence, and the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt that his efforts have effected some improvement in the working of the department.

2. Dr. Richards, Embarkation Agent at Goalundo, officiated as Protector of Emigrants throughout the year. Dr. Grant has since resumed charge of the appointment, and the report is submitted by him.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor's views in connection with the amendment of the Colonial Emigration Act VII of 1871, which is at present under consideration, were communicated to the Government of India during the year. An improvement of the existing law is in many respects needed, and it is hoped that the necessary changes will be introduced under the new Act. Amendments of the rules for carrying out the provisions of the law have been approved by the Government of India, but their introduction will now be postponed in view of the proposed change in the law itself. The rules prescribing the shipment of not more than 25 women to every 100 men, during the months of August, September, and October, and of a larger proportion in succeeding months to make up the full complement of 40 women to every 100 men required for the whole season, which were introduced experimentally in 1877-78, were enforced during the past season on all vessels, save those proceeding to the French colonies, in whose favour a special relaxation had been granted. Compliance with these rules has, however, been found a matter of extreme difficulty and inconvenience, and it would appear, from a special report lately received from the Protector, that the object aimed at by the experiment, namely, the reduction of infant mortality on board emigrant ships by restricting to a low proportion the number of women shipped during the monsoon or bad weather

months, was not attained during the season. The Government of India has accordingly sanctioned the withdrawal of the rules from the commencement of next season.

4. There were nine agencies in operation during the year, the number being the same as in the previous year. No recruiting for Grenada was carried on, but the place of that agency was filled up by the new agency opened for Fiji. With the exception of the Mauritius depôt, which is at Bhowanipore, the depôts are all situated at Garden Reach, and three of them are on the river-side. Their sites are well chosen, and they are said to afford ample accommodation for large bodies of coolies, and facilities for embarkation. The management of the depôts generally during the year was satisfactory, and the Lieutenant-Governor cordially acknowledges the assistance given by the Emigration Agents to the Protector, in the discharge of his duties.

5. The total number of emigrants admitted into depôt was 18,485 against 22,544 in 1877-78, showing a decrease of 4,059. Admissions fell off from 3,044 to 1,316 in the Mauritius depôt, from 9,668 to 7,263 in the Demerara depôt, from 1,156 to 232 in the Jamaica depôt, from 724 to 263 in the St. Lucia depôt, and from 2,733 to 2,515 in the Guadeloupe depôt. The depôts in which admissions increased were those for Trinidad (from 2,821 to 3,093), Natal (from 1,315 to 2,161), and Surinam (from 504 to 1,045). The number admitted into the Fiji depôt was 597.

6. The mortality in depôt was less than that which occurred in 1877-78, the number of deaths in all the depôts together being 97, and the general death-rate ·52 per cent., as compared with 168 deaths and a death-rate of ·74 per cent. in 1877-78. The Natal depôt, with a percentage of ·97 against ·15 in the previous year, shows the highest death-rate. It is explained that this serious increase was caused by an outbreak of cholera, which was, however, promptly checked. The lowest death-rate is returned against the depôts for Trinidad, Jamaica, and St. Lucia. The Trinidad depôt, which shows a mortality of only 11 out of 3,093 admissions, or ·35 per cent., was particularly healthy. A very satisfactory improvement is observed in the rate of mortality among children and infants in all the depôts. The percentage of deaths, calculated on the total strength of each group admitted into depôt in the past two years, has been—

	1877-78.	1878-79.
Among the men	0 25	0·22
Ditto women	0·48	0·33
Ditto children	1·68	0·20
Ditto infants	3·77	0·31

Cholera, dysentery, and chest-affection carried off the largest number of persons last year, and an outbreak of measles caused 13 deaths in the Demerara depôt. Only one case of small-pox was reported against 18 in 1877-78.

7. Except in the Jamaica, Natal, and Guadeloupe depôts, the average detention in depôt shows a reduction. In the Jamaica depôt the average detention rose from 37 to 62 days, owing, it is stated, to delay in the arrival of the return ship which had been chartered for the double voyage, and difficulty in procuring ballast cargo. The number of emigrants detained was fortunately small, and no fatal outbreak of sickness occurred during their detention, as only one death is returned for the whole season There were, as usual, some cases of prolonged detention in most of the depôts on account of ill-health or other unavoidable causes.

8. The number of licenses granted during the year was 286 against 375 in 1877-78 and 306 in 1876-77, while the percentage of cancellations was 14·68 against 4·26 in 1877-78 and 3·92 in 1876-77. The large increase of cancellations in the past year was the result of vigorous efforts made by Dr. Richards to check the irregularities of recruiters. Among other irregularities brought to light, it was found that the employment of unlicensed assistants was freely resorted to by licensed recruiters, and that some sub-agents and recruiters habitually removed intending emigrants from their own to other districts for the purpose of registration, with the object, it would seem, of placing them quickly beyond the influence of their relatives and friends, who might object to their emigrating. These practices are distinctly contrary to the law, and all the men found

guilty of them were deprived of their licenses. At the instance of this Government, instructions were also issued by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to its district officers, to supervise carefully the proceedings of recruiters, so as to check completely the employment of unlicensed recruiters, and to make registration possible only in the districts in which the emigrants are recruited. As a further means of controlling the operations of the agencies, revised forms of the register of emigrants to be kept at each depôt, of the report of arrivals and of the return of casualties, were prepared during the year, and have since been introduced.

9. No change has been made in the terms offered to emigrants by the several colonies. The colony of Fiji, which, as already remarked, started operations for the first time last year, offers wages at the rate of one shilling a day to adult males, and nine pence a day to adult females, above the age of 15 years. Children will receive remuneration according to the amount of work done by them. In all other respects the terms of engagement are identical with those for Trinidad. It was stated in the Resolution on the last report that a representation had been made to the Government of India in regard to a provision of the law of the French colonies, under which the Indian immigrant, though entitled to a return passage under the Convention entered into between the French and British Governments in 1861, might be deprived of his right to such passage in case of criminal or corrective condemnation in the local courts. An assurance has since been given by the French Government that the colonial law will in no case be enforced in contravention of the terms of the Convention, and the Lieutenant-Governor considers this a satisfactory settlement of the question.

10. The total number of statute adults indented for by the colonies, and the number actually despatched during the year, has been stated. The number shipped was larger than the demand in every case, except Natal, to which only 955 men were sent against a demand of 1,000. Return emigrants who re-emigrated were 472 in number, the majority going to Demerara and Trinidad. Demerara took 255, of whom 191 had previously been in the colony, and 91, including 66 old emigrants of the colony, went to Trinidad. Mauritius would seem to stand next in popularity with this class of emigrants, 48 out of 120 of its old emigrants who re-emigrated having gone back to the island.

11. Great discrepancies are again observed between the number of emigrants registered in the recruiting districts, as shown in the returns of the registering officers, and the number admitted into depôt, as reported by the Agents. From the registering officers' returns it appears that 20,117 persons were registered during the year, while the Agents' returns account for only 18,485 persons. The Lieutenant-Governor fears that of the remaining 1,632 persons, not a few were turned adrift by the recruiter, after registration, without adequate provision for their return to their homes. One such case, in which 287 people were thus rejected, was actually brought to the notice of Government during the year. Instructions were issued to all registering officers, in October 1878, to forward to the Protector a copy of every registration under official endorsement, and to furnish him as soon as possible after the close of each month, with a list of all registrations effected during the month. The Government of the North-Western Provinces were requested simultaneously to issue similar instructions to its officers. The Protector's suggestion that that Government should now be addressed to this effect has therefore been anticipated. It is probable that these instructions reached the registering officers too late to produce any material effect on the returns for the past year; but the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that they have since been carefully complied with, and that their good results will be apparent hereafter.

12. Inclusive of 193 remaining from the previous year, the number of emigrants in depôt during the past year was 18,678. Of these, 15,848* were despatched to the colonies, leaving a balance of 2,829, which is accounted for thus—rejected as unfit to labour, 1,168; dependents of those so rejected, 448; unwilling to emigrate, 96; claimed by relatives, 10; desertions, 549; deaths, 97; transferred to other agencies, 165; and remaining in depôt at the close of the year, 296. The percentage of emigrants rejected on the ground of unfitness continues large, and was especially high last year in the agencies for Natal,

* The number 15,865, shown in paragraph 1, includes 17 passengers.

Surinam, Guadeloupe, and Fiji. The recruits of the Natal agency were, it appears, all examined and passed by the Civil Surgeons of the recruiting districts during the year, and the Surinam and Guadeloupe agencies have also since made arrangements for a similar examination of their recruits. The large number of rejections which the agents are nevertheless compelled to make in Calcutta indicates, however, that the medical examination in the recruiting districts is frequently carried out in the most inefficient manner. The Protector advocates, as an effective means of reducing the chances of rejection in Calcutta, the introduction of a provision in the law rendering medical examination prior to registration compulsory. This question has already been before the Government, and it is now again under discussion.

13. The percentage of recruits who finally declined to emigrate, and of those who were claimed by their relatives, was smaller than in the previous year. Desertions also show a satisfactory falling off, the percentage on the total number of emigrants in depôt being only 2·93, as compared with 4·59 in 1877-78. There was a marked change for the better in the Mauritius agency, and some improvement also took place in the Surinam agency, although the percentage in the latter is still very high. The Lieutenant-Governor is aware that a certain number of desertions, due to causes over which the agencies can exercise no control, are likely to occur every season; but the majority of the desertions of each season are always traceable to malpractices or injudicious selection on the part of recruiters, and it is to the reduction of such cases that the Protector and the Agents should continue to direct their attention. Of the 296 emigrants remaining in depôt at the close of the year, 134 were waiting for a vessel to convey them to Mauritius, seven were orphans maintained by the Natal Government, and the remainder have since been released from their engagements and sent back to their homes.

14. More than the prescribed minimum proportion of 40 women to every 100 men despatched during the season was secured for every colony, and all deficiencies of the previous season were also made up. Altogether 4,202 women and 9,213 men embarked during the year, and the proportion of women to every 100 men was thus 45·60.

15. Of the emigrants of the year, 8,603 were recruited from the North-Western Provinces, 4,266 from Oudh, 2,524 from Behar, 203 from Bengal, 120 from Central India, 58 from Madras and Bombay, 40 from the Punjab, 38 from Native States, and 13 from Orissa. Oudh contributed 100 more than in the previous year, while the number received from Madras and Bombay fell off very largely, apparently on account of the termination of the famine in those provinces. As regards the remaining provinces, allowance being made for the reduced demand of the colonies, the proportion of the emigrants of the season contributed by each may be considered to have been the same as in 1877-78. It will be observed that more than one-half of the emigrants came from the North-Western Provinces, more than one-fourth from Oudh, and nearly one-sixth from Behar, and that only 472 emigrants altogether were recruited elsewhere. The recruits from Bengal were, as usual, few in number. Of the total number of emigrants, 2,179 were Mussulmans and 13,686 Hindoos, and, of the latter, 1,450 were returned as Brahmins, 5,296 as agriculturists, 595 as artizans, and 6,345 as belonging to low castes.

16. One steamer and 32 sailing vessels were engaged in the conveyance of emigrants during the year, against one steamer and 37 sailing vessels in 1877-78, and the average number of emigrants carried by each vessel was 444 against 486 in 1877-78. With one exception, complete information has been received in regard to all the voyages. The death-rate was, on the whole, less than in the previous season. The highest percentage (4·46), which occurred on board the *Plassey*, is ascribed to an outbreak of measles. Cholera made its appearance on three vessels, causing 15 deaths in all. The disease was most fatal on the *Leonidas*, on which nine deaths occurred among 18 emigrants attacked. The voyages appear to have been made in good time, except in the cases of the *Jorwar* (111 days to Guadeloupe) and the *Lightning* and the *Sylhet* (111 days and 108 days respectively to Demerara). In all other cases the voyage to Guadeloupe and Demerara occupied less than 100 days. The steamer employed during the year was despatched with 709 emigrants to Surinam, and accomplished the voyage in 66 days.

17. The number of emigrants who returned from the colonies during the year, the amount of their acknowledged savings, and the mortality during the voyage, are shown in the following statement—

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Mortality.		Savings.	
			Deaths.	Per cent.	Aggregate amount.	Average amount.
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	4	1,402	13	0·92	2,37,567 0 0	162 5 0
Demerara	3	1,599	38	2·37	3,88,949 15 10	243 3 11
Jamaica	1	227	11	4·62	25,217 0 0	111 1 4
Natal	1	36	4	11·11	123 2 0	3 6 8
Total ...	9	3,264	66	2·03	6,51,857 1 10	199 11 4

In 1877-78 the number of return emigrants was 2,544, the aggregate savings amounted to Rs. 4,72,927, and the average savings to Rs. 185-14-4. The very high percentage of mortality shown against the vessel which brought back the Natal emigrants last year is accounted for by the small number of passengers on board, the number of deaths having been four only. Looking, however, to the very sickly condition of the emigrants, as separately reported, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it a matter for regret that no medical officer was provided for the vessel.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

H. J. REYNOLDS,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 435.

Copy submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department, for information.

No. 436.

Copy forwarded to the Protector of Emigrants for information and guidance, and for circulation to the Emigration Agents.

Circular No. 37.

Extract (paragraph 11) forwarded to all Commissioners of Divisions for information, with the request that it may be circulated to all District Officers subordinate to them.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

C. W. BOLTON,

Under-Secy. to the Government of Bengal.

Calcutta,
The 25th November 1879.

C. E. G.—Reg. No. 9699—3-12-79.